



August 5, 2014

Director of Regulation & Licensure  
P. O. Box 95007  
Lincoln, NE 68509-5007

RE: Credentialing Review Program Application Letter of Intent

This will serve as a Letter of Intent for submitting an application for Credentialing Review. The Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association is requesting this review on behalf of licensed dental hygienists in the state of Nebraska.

The purpose of the requested review is to evaluate the proposal to enhance the authorized scope of practice for licensed dental hygienists and to establish in statute a scope of practice for dental assistants in order to better serve patients throughout Nebraska. The proposed changes can be summarized as follows:

1. Allow dental hygienists to better serve the needs of the public by expanding on current scope of practice within dental practices and in public health settings.
2. Establish an Expanded Function Registered Dental Hygienist (EFRDH).
3. Establish in statute a scope of practice for dental assistants beyond existing x-ray and coronal polishing certifications that will define duties, educational requirements, levels of supervision, and licensure in order to allow assistants to further assist the dentist, while ensuring the safety and protection of the public.

We would anticipate that a completed application for Credentialing Review could be ready to submit no later than August 15, 2014.

The initial contact person for the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association relative to this application will be our Executive Director, Kathi Schildt, who can be reached at the address and telephone number on this letterhead.

We look forward to confirmation from the Department as to acceptance of this application for Credentialing Review and await your notification of the next steps in the process.

Sincerely,

Julie Niles, RDH, PHRDH  
President, Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association